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# Speak Natural English

# 说地道英语

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# Introductory Remarks

Effective communication in English depends on many factors. In conversation, speaking naturally, or using common expressions is often the key to being able to be understood.

This does not necessarily involve learning a vast amount of new vocabulary. Indeed, many Chinese students of English have a good vocabulary from their intensive reading experiences. Apart from knowing a wide range of expressions, effective communication requires restructuring the expressions into known forms, choosing the appropriate words or expressions for the right situation and using the terms with expected tones.

This book was created with these points in mind. Commonly used expressions beginning sentences were chosen to give the speaker more confidence in either initiating statements or appropriately responding to comments.

The accompanying tapes were devised to assist anyone desiring to speak English with a more natural approach, to reach their goal. Being able to practice not only the pronunciation, but the fluency and intonation are important features of communicating. The tapes ensure the correct pronunciation as well as the appropriate intonation models. It is therefore recommended that the tapes be used in conjunction with the book.

Undoubtedly, the move towards more communicative methods in English learning in China has been a significant one. For many Chinese speakers of English as a second language, some established habits will have to be modified and new learning methods mastered, especially in the areas of speaking and listening. Both the book and the tapes have been devised to help individuals study in their own time, at their own pace and, with continued effort, to improve their natural spoken

## English.

Best wishes for your success.

Pam Wadeson May 2000

# 前言

中国人学英语大多是从阅读开始。然而当今世 界交流起来用得最多的是口语。

无论哪种语言,都分为书面体与口语体,它们的表达是不同的。以往从书面体学来的语言套用在口语中,凑合表达意思是可以的。再进一步提高的话,就要在流利与地道的口语体上下工夫了。

要想提高口语能力,要想说一口流利地道的英语口语,没有一定的语言环境,似乎是不可能的。书面体的学习可以依靠书本。然而口语体的学习,光有书还不够,它对语言使用的环境有一定的依赖性。但是这样的语言环境实际上又是不可得的:本土的中国人,能找个外国人帮你练口语无疑是非常罕见的;而在海外的中国人,如果没有口语基础就很难扎到说英语的人中去与他们交谈;西方人看重时间,他们即便是你的朋友,也不可能陪你练口语;而且他们与你说英语要将就你的水平,说出的英语也就变了味儿。

为了帮中国人了解英语口语,学习英语口语, 使他们能说一口自然、流利、地道的英语,本文作者 把在英语世界使用最广泛的口语表达按语头的字母顺序排列,写出此书。这些语头包括常用口语句式,俚语,习语,还有语气词。

#### 这本书的特点是:

- 1. 按字母排列,便于随时查找使用。
- 2. 按语头方式列出:这是比较现代的口语编写 方式,使使用者一张嘴就上口,易用易记。
- 3. 提供细微的内在涵义。
- 4. 提供使用的场合。
- 5. 例句中的对话采用各界人士的语言,如学校 学生、公司职员、家庭成员等等。
- 6. 与书相配的录音磁带,请英语为母语的外籍 教师录制,以实用的对话,使你如临其境,为 此产生有效的口语学习环境。

作者相信,口语学习者持此书一册,将阅读与 聆听录音结合起来,再加上随录音重复语音语调, 就会产生贴切、自然的语言感觉;然后到说英语的 地方去试一试,你一定能发现本书列出的语头在英 语人口中俯拾即是。

有了这本口语书,不需要任何外国朋友的帮助,说一口自然、地道的英语是可能的。

到羅滨 2000 年 5 月

# Actually

### i Making things clear

澄清事实

A: Actually, I didn't want to come this evening but I thought I should. 说实际的,今晚我本不想来,但考虑还

是该来。

B: I felt the same. 我也是。

#### \*\*\*\*

A: I know someone else who comes from Shanghai.

我还认识一个从上海来的。

B: *Actually*, I'm from Beijing. 哎,我可是从北京来的。

### ii Correcting and clarifying something

纠正、弄清某事

A: You seem to be on his side in this argument.

在这一点上,你好象站在他一边。

B: *Actually* I believe he's only partly right. I don't agree with him 100 percent. 不,不,我想他只是部分地对,我可不是百分之百同意他的啊。

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# iii Correcting someone's expectations (providing the truth)

纠正某人的期盼(提供事实)

A: So, how was your weekend away? 哎,周末外出怎么样?

B: Actually, I didn't go. I wasn't well. 别提了.我就没去。我生病了。

#### \*\*\*

A: What did she say when you told her? 他告诉她时,她怎么说?

B: Actually, I didn't tell her. I didn't want to hurt her feelings. 别提了,我压根就没跟她说。我不想伤害她。

A: But you said you would. 可你说过要跟她说的呀。

# Afraid so (informal)

i expressing an affirmative answer (yes) but acknowledging that it is not good news

表示肯定的回答,但承认这并不是什么好消息

A: Are you telling me that I have to work back again tonight?

### deillut lerutell deeqt

你是说我今晚还得回来工作吗?

B: Afraid so. We just have so much work to get through.

恐怕是这样。我们实在有太多的工作要做完。

#### \* \* \* \*

A: Excuse me, is it true that the plane's been delayed?

对不起,这次航班真的已经误点了吗?

B: *Afraid so*. It's now re-scheduled for 11 a.m.

恐怕是这样。时间现在调整到上午十一点。

## All in all

i expressing the concept of entirely or totally

表示总的、整个的概念

- A: How are you feeling after the operation? 手术后感觉怎么样啊?
- B: *All in all*, I'm feeling well. Stronger than ever.

总的来说,感觉还不错。(身体)比以往任何时候都壮。

#### \*\*\*

A: All in all, I think the company has done well this quarter.

总体上说,我认为公司业务这个季度进 展得不错。

# All in good time (informal)

i implying that something will happen eventually

表示某事最终将会发生

A: Mum, can I see the things you brought back from your overseas trip? 妈妈, 我能看看你从国外带回来的东西吗?

B: All in good time. First, I must unpack my bags.

早晚会给你看的。首先我得把行李打开。

#### \*\*\*

A: When will you adjust these figures for the monthly report?

你什么时候把月终报告中的数字校对好 呢?

B: All in good time. I'm working on this material for the boss at the mo-

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ment.

总会做的。我现在得给老板做这些材料。

# All right

i agreeing to something, confirming a decision 同意,确认

A: You really should go with us. It would be fun. You need a break.

你真该和我们一起去。会有意思的。你得 调节一下了。

B: All right, I'll go. 好吧,我去。

# ii showing that a speaker will change the subject

用以改变话题

(This is often used by teachers, lecturers or doctors — it is most commonly used after time has passed or there has been an interruption)

A: I apologize for that interruption. ... *All right*, now where were we up to? 对不起有所耽搁。……好了,我们刚才说到哪儿了?

B: You were talking about the different

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theories.

你刚才在谈不同的理论。

A: Ah, yes. Now to continue... 噢.对了。让我们接着谈吧……

#### \*\*\*

A: So we'll go tomorrow? 这么看来,我们决定明天去了?

B: Agreed. *All right*, now, what shall we take?

同意。那么,好,我们带些什么呢?

### iii implying everything is fine

表示一切安然无恙

A: How are you after your fall? 摔了一跤后,现在怎么样?

B: *All right*. I'm fine. 还好。没事儿。

# iv showing mild annoyance or impatience 显得有点儿不耐烦 .

A: Come on. We're really late. 嘿,快点儿。我们真的晚了。

B: *All right.* All right. I'll be with you in a minute.

好吧,好吧。我马上就来。

v showing agreement, especially when something is not believed

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#### 不相信,但表示认可

A: I have finished the work, really. 我已经完成了这项工作,真的。

B: *All right*, show me. 那好. 计我瞧瞧。

#### \*\*\*

A: I'm okay. Really. I haven't hurt myself at all.

我没事儿,真的。我一点儿也没伤着自己。

B: *All right.* Let me see you walk. 那好,走走让我看。

vi Modern slang: implying "terrific", "great", "that's the idea" (The emphasis is on the "right", which is usually lengthened.)

俚语:暗示"真棒","了不起","主意不错"(重音在"right"上,并拉长音)

A: I've agreed with your father that you can go camping with your friends. 我和你父亲同意你和朋友去露营了。

B: All right! I'll ring and tell them. 太棒了! 我这就打电话告诉他们。

## Allow me

i offering to do something

表示提供帮助

Someone is finding it difficult to get the door opened.

A: Allow me! (opens the door) 我来!

B: Thanks, that's kind. 谢谢。你真好。

\*\*\*

Someone has both hand full and is waiting for the lift, but cannot press the button.

A: Allow me. (presses the button) 我来。

B: Thanks. Would you also press level 3 for me please?

谢谢。你能再帮我按一下到三层的键吗?

ii introducing someone 介绍某人

A: Allow me to introduce my husband, Michael St. Clare.

让我介绍一下我的先生,米歇尔·克莱 尔。

B: How do you do? 你好!

### delind leverel design

#### iii offering to pay for something

请求付费

Arriving in a car.

A: Well, here we are back at the university.

行了,我们回到学校了。

B: It was a great picnic. Allow me to pay for the petrol.

野炊真是太棒了。让我来付汽油费。

A: No, thanks all the same. Don't worry about it. It's my treat.

不,不,谢谢。别管了,我来付。

# And another thing. . .

often used in arguments or debates, to i add emphasis to yet another point

常用于争论中,强调不正如此

A: Firstly, you came home late, you forgot about the dinner appointment. 首先,你回家晚了,你忘了约定的晚餐。

B: I'm sorry... but... 对不起,但是……

A: And another thing: you didn't even remember that it was your mother's